

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Feb. 15, 1830.

Draftsman to the House.

Mr. WICKLIFFE observed, that it had been his determination not to trouble the House with any remarks of his upon the subject embraced in the resolution, but, after the opposition which it had met from the professed advocates of Retrenchment, and particularly the manner in which it had been spoken of, he felt it due to himself, and more particularly due to the Committee, of which he was a member, to vindicate the propriety of the resolution.

It should not be forgotten, Mr. SPEAKER, (said Mr. WICKLIFFE,) that about this time two years, we were engaged in the discussion of the original resolution of my colleague, (Mr. CHILTON.) No, sir, I am mistaken. I believe no part of his resolution, except the word "Resolved," was agreed to, or adopted by the House. The resolution, as agreed to, was predicated upon the idea that there had existed, and then existed, many abuses in the administration of the affairs of this Government, that the number of officers and public agents had been unnecessarily multiplied, and that many of them might be discontinued with advantage to the public interest.

I will not stop to characterize the discussion upon that resolution. It was bitter and acrimonious, and strongly delineated by the political line which then divided the House of Representatives. A committee was organized to inquire into the supposed abuses, and to provide the remedy for the evils which were supposed to exist. Of that committee, Mr. WICKLIFFE said he had been a member, and of the manner in which they discharged the duties assigned them, it was not becoming in him to speak. One thing, however, he must be permitted to say, that his labors were arduous and unremitting, and if good did not come of them, it would not be the fault of the Committee, but of those who had the power, and failed to carry into operation the principles and measures recommended by their report. Time was not allowed that Congress, (if indeed the political complexion of it was favorable for the purpose,) to act upon the measures recommended. The work was left unfinished for the workmanship of the coming Administration and this Congress, when it was believed there would be a disposition between the Executive and the Representatives of the People to harmonize and unite in this business of Retrenchment and Reform. I mean that Retrenchment which the People desire—the retrenchment of extravagant expenditures of public money—the prevention of frauds and peculation upon the Treasury, and the abolition of useless offices.

Sir, we obtained power avowing these principles, and if we now abandon them, we shall lose it; nay, sir, we shall deserve to lose it, and the people will abandon us.

At the commencement of the present session, the President, in his Message, had distinctly invited the Representatives of the People to inquire "into the condition of the Government with a view to ascertain what offices can be dispensed with, what expenses retrenched, and what improvement may be made in its various parts, to secure proper accountability of public agents, and promote efficiency and justice in all its parts." This I regard as his pledge to the People to co-operate with the Representatives of the People in all measures which may be designed to promote so desirable an object; and, so far as it may depend upon his exertions, I have no fears of the result. A committee for this purpose has been organized by this House, and that committee have determined to take up this business where their predecessors left it; and, so far as it may depend upon their labors, to prescribe to their friends in power the same rules, and exact from them the same rigid observance of law, and a just economy, which we required of our opponents. If we fail in this, we shall act false to ourselves and to our country, and we shall not only lose the confidence of that country, but deserve, as we shall certainly receive, the ridicule and contempt of those whom the people have deprived of office and power. With these opinions, said Mr. W., I assumed the discharge of the duties of a member of the Committee on Retrenchment, (not a very enviable station for any person to occupy, and one which I did not seek;) a station which I certainly would have declined, if I had been induced to believe that I was to encounter, at every step, the opposition of some of the members of that party which was pledged to the nation to carry into operation and full effect the principles of the report of 1827-8. The committee intend to be governed, not only by the spirit, but the letter of that report, and leave the responsibility upon Congress. Their course is a plain, straight forward one. To act efficiently, they must act in detail; and though some of the measures which they have, and may recommend, appear inconsiderable in amount, in a pecuniary point of view, still they are part of the system, and, if fairly and candidly examined, will be found based on sound policy and principle.

Mr. SPEAKER, I must be allowed to say, (not in the language of complaint,) that the measures which the committee have recommended, and especially the one now under consideration, have not been fairly met, or appropriately characterized by the language which has been invoked in their discussion. I will excuse my colleague, who claims the parental guardianship of retrenchment, upon the savage principle that a man may abuse his own offspring with impunity.

The former committee, when instructed to look into the expenditures of the House, with a view to a diminution of them, found this officer fastened like a vulture upon the contingent fund. They called for the law authorizing his appointment, and were pointed to this resolution of 1824-5.

"Resolved, That the Speaker of the House be authorized to procure for the use of the House, copies of the different maps and plans of Roads and Canals which have been, or may hereafter be, executed by the United States' Engineers, in pursuance of an act of the 30th April, 1824, to be deposited in some convenient place for the inspection of the members."

That committee came to the conclusion that there was no law or authority in force, which justified the longer continuation either of the office or the expenditure—that it was not safe or sound to permit a subordinate officer of this House to create an office, appoint the officer, fix his salary, and charge it upon the Contingent Fund. The present Committee was of the same opinion. They deny the right of the Clerk or Speaker of this House to create an office, appoint the officer, and fix the salary of \$1,500 to the office, not only without law, but against law.

It is the principle involved in this resolution, and not the amount of the salary, about which I feel any concern upon the decision of this question. I may learn whether in this business of reform there be any principle. I look at this question unconnected with the supposed utility and importance of the services heretofore or hereafter to be performed, and I invoke those gentlemen who have persuaded themselves, or permitted others to do so, that the labors to be performed, and which have been performed by this officer, are important and necessary, that they will unite their labors, and, by legislation, create the office and regulate the salary. Your clerks of the lowest grade, your doorkeeper and assistant doorkeeper owe their appointment to law; an office unknown to your law, (and I may safely say, unknown in fact, to ninety-nine twentieths of the members of Congress, until the subject,) in the annual receipt of \$1,500, a sum much larger than many of the Judges of the United States Courts receive, is found fastened by the dissection of this House, upon the Contingent Fund of the House; and when we ask you to retract your colleague, [Mr. CHILTON,] who claims to be the father of retrenchment, and who has been called by a distinguished author the hero of retrenchment, to become the advocate of this office and illegal expenditure, not because it is right, but because it is too small a matter for the grasp of his retrenching powers. He invites us to lay "the axe at the trunk of the tree of extravagance," and let this "small twig"

alone. Sir, I must confess I was not surprised at the opposition of that gentleman; it was what those who know him best have a right to expect. He refers to his own labors and disinterested efforts to reduce his own pay in this House, and his total failure, (no doubt very much to his dissatisfaction,) as the cause for his change of opinion and opposition to this measure. Mr. SPEAKER, every member who has witnessed the efforts of my colleague to rid himself of a portion of his own pay, (of that portion to which he thinks his services here do not entitle him,) believed him perfectly sincere. They could not, but witness the deep, deep regret, which he manifested at the loss of his proposition.

We are invited by some gentlemen, to come on with a proposition for the retrenchment of the useless expenditures of the government, or the abolition of useless offices, worthy the attention of Congress, and they will co-operate. I will thank them to direct us where we shall begin—what office—what expense do they desire to lop off? We invoke them to assist us in correcting the abuses in this House first, and when that is done, we will conduct them to other departments of the government, which require the correcting arm of Legislation. The bills already reported by the committee, look to other and more important objects. Let us, however, put things right at home first. I do not design, Mr. Speaker, in what I have said, to impute corruption, or improper motive, to any officer in this House. It is not every commission of error, or mal-administration by an officer, which necessarily carries along with it corruption—still, I repeat, the deliberate judgment of the committee, and that of my own, that the appointment of this officer, and the payment of his salary, was not only without law, but against law; and in the discussion of this resolution, we are not called upon to point out the utility of his past services, or to provide for the longer continuation of them. The resolution which I have read, was temporary—it expired with the session at which it was adopted; and this I am persuaded, was the understanding of those members who voted for it.

But, sir, if I were disposed to accept the challenge given, to investigate the important labors of this quasi officer, [this officer who wants every legal ingredient, to create an officer, save the salary which he illegally receives,] I should not, in that case, despair of satisfying many gentlemen in this House, that the compensation paid him is greatly beyond the value of his labors. Is it not a fact known to this House, sir, that ever since he has been in the receipt of this salary of \$1,500 per annum, that he has been employed, during the sessions of Congress, by the editors of the Intelligencer, as their reporter of the debates in this House, upon an average of four months in each year? Has he not been for the last four months at Richmond, reporting the debates in the Convention?

In order to have some idea of the labors of this officer, I addressed to your clerk a letter of inquiry, as to what maps, drafts &c. this man had copied—the number in each year? The Clerk has given me a list of 48 in all, but says he is unable to designate the time or year in which each or any was completed. He has also voluntarily furnished us with his estimate of what these maps would have cost, if he had employed some one to do them by the "job." I do not pretend to be a judge of this description of labor, but know enough to satisfy my mind, that the estimate is extravagantly high, and greatly beyond the value of the maps, charts, &c., which have been referred to.

I will not detain the House by reading this schedule of copies, made out from the original drawings sent to this House by the Topographical Corps. His work is that of copying, I say, unnecessary copying, the drafts, and maps, made out by that Corps.

The process is this, if I understand it: A call is made by the House, upon the Department of War, for the report of the topographical corps, of some projected improvement of a road, river, harbor, or bay—it is furnished, and you order it to be printed and engraved, at considerable expense. At some time, this draftsman, as he is called, when he has nothing else to do, copies the map or drawing, and it is suspended in some committee room, for the information of the members, all of whom have been furnished with one, engraved at public expense. Now, sir, it cannot be necessary longer to continue this copying of maps. If, however, it is thought expedient to place manuscript copies in any of the committee rooms, it is only necessary to require the Secretary of War to furnish as many copies as you may desire, without any additional expense. In order that I might relieve this subject from an objection urged against it, by some of my friends, who think that these copies of maps, &c. may be required hereafter, I addressed to the Secretary of War a letter. His answer I have, and which I desire the clerk will read.

[It was read.] I propose, Mr. Speaker, so to amend the resolution, that the Clerk shall, from time to time, if required by the House, or any of the committees, call upon the topographical corps, already in the pay and employment of the government, for such maps, charts, and drawings, as may be required for the safe and efficient action of this House. In offering this amendment, I wish it understood, that I do it to obviate the objections of some of my friends, not that I believe there ever was, or is now, any necessity for such an officer as this draftsman.

With the amendment which I now send to the Chair, I hope all opposition to the passage of the resolution will cease. In the mode proposed by it, we shall get the same description of work done, by men competent to do it, already in the public service, and without any additional expense, or very little—Such I understand to be the communication from the Secretary of War, which has been just read.

Mr. CHILTON said, conscious as he was of his inability to do justice to the subject which was under consideration, it would scarcely be expected of him to attempt, at the present time, a labored defence of the principles which actuated him in the course he pursued. But he felt it due to himself—he felt it due to the freemen whom he had the honor of representing—to make some observations in exculpation of his motives; and, in doing so, he hoped for a continuation of that lenity, on the part of the House, which had usually been extended towards him, and which he conceived to be due to every individual who was honored, by the voice of a free people, with a well understood and just character of the amendment which had just been offered; and he also believed he understood equally well, the motive of the gentleman who had proposed it. The same song, said Mr. C., has been sung, on a former occasion, in the District which I represent, that of all the resolutions introduced by me into this house, no part of them are suffered to stand, except the word "Resolved." He hoped, in charity, his colleague was not the person who originated this hue and cry against him in his own district. If this was the fact, it would be a source of regret to him, as coming from a gentleman on whom his affections had been fixed so long—a member of his own party—one whom he wished to honor and respect—he could not believe that he would be guilty of turning against his own party, and raising a hue and cry against his own friends.

Mr. C. said he knew it had often been objected to him, that he was young and inexperienced in the business of legislation. He was willing to grant it, and when he introduced his resolutions in a former Congress, he was willing to acknowledge that he had, from time to time, made various alterations in them, until finally, they stood, as had been observed, with only the word "Resolved," of the original resolution left. But this was not to make himself a pander of party, for he despised all of them—he believed there was little sincerity in any of the parties of the day.

[Mr. CHILTON here said he hoped the members of the House would hear him—if they did not, the resolution should.]

Mr. C. said he would endeavor to confine himself to the subject of this great little retrenchment—His honorable colleague, [Mr. WICKLIFFE,] had referred to the men who had been most conspicuous and clamorous in the cause of retrenchment. For his own part, he believed himself entitled to the respect of being heard—no matter if he had been born in a swamp or rocked in a sugar trough—no matter if he were destitute of all the refinement of a fashionable world—he was still entitled to be heard upon that floor. He had received the credit of having originated the system of Retrenchment, and he was happy to believe that gentlemen in whose good graces he stood, were not disposed to take from him that credit. He believed then, as he believes now, that money was the main-spring of power. He believed that our government was going on in a regular march of extravagance which would lead it to a point, not only dangerous to the liberties of the People, but to the financial concerns of the country.

[Mr. CHILTON here remarked, that the atmosphere was excessively humid, and apologized for the effects of a cold.] Mr. C. continued. He said he introduced the resolutions on retrenchment, referred to; and he would ask, what was their effect upon the American people? Sir, said Mr. C., they were thrown into absolute convulsions! Yes, sir, they were wrought up into paroxysms of expectation, although there was but one solitary word of the original left in his resolutions—Other gentlemen had been clamorous, out of doors, on the subject of retrenchment. He had the pleasure of knowing, and could now see some who had been more clamorous than himself. It is true, sir, said Mr. C. I have been clamorous upon this subject; but I have also been sincere. I have endeavored to retrench all that could be retrenched; but I have seen one thing, and this House has seen it too; the gentlemen who make the most noise on the subject of retrenchment, are the least instrumental in effecting it. This conduct reminds me, sir, of the fable of Neptune, where he is represented as amusing himself by darting his harpoon at Minotaur, while he was overshadowed and covered by the spray from the spouting of the Whale! The eagle eyes of gentlemen had been lured to in the course of this debate, and also the wings upon the tree of extravagance. He thought gentlemen must be eagle-eyed indeed, who could discover in a twig as this, and could not discover the tree itself. I say again, sir, there is a system of extravagance abroad in this Union, which threatens to finally demolish this fair Temple of Freedom; and we must lay the axe at the root of the tree, before we can effect its destruction; instead of playing with the twigs—instead of pruning, in full cry, the track of the cricket, while the roar of the lion of the forest is resounding in our ears.

Mr. C. said he had been asked, and triumphantly asked, on what principle he could oppose this resolution, and still lay claim to consistency? He would tell his colleague, [Mr. WICKLIFFE] how and why he was opposed to it. He would not say that the measure was an odious one, but he would say he believed it to be unnecessary and ill advised. Mr. C. said he had just sense enough to know what he believed to be right upon this subject, and independence enough to express it. He repeated there had been much noise made in that House, in a former session, about retrenchment. We have even, said he, condescended to inquire into the expense of the little matters of the waters, with which members seal the letters which they write to their constituents. This he considered small game—very small—but it was somewhat similar to this tremendous attack on the little office of Draftsman. This hue and cry of Retrenchment had not only been raised during the last Administration, in Kentucky, but had been reverberated throughout the United States; and he would add, it finally had the effect of breaking down the distinguished individual then at the head of affairs, who, he believed, had much more honesty than his enemies were disposed to give him credit for. The cry was "Retrenchment and Reform;" and the promise was made, that this should be effected. What has been the result? We have, emphatically, said Mr. C., as I observed on a former occasion, raised a thunderstorm to drown a fly. We cut a twig from the tree—the great Baboon-Ups of extravagance, to kill it! This, said he, is not the Kentucky fashion in cutting down trees; we there usually begin at the trunk, and lop it off by the root.

Humble as I am, said Mr. C., batteries have been opened upon me, from all quarters, during this war for Retrenchment. The batteries of the newspapers were not the only batteries he had encountered; but he thanked heaven he could say it was not from his colleague. A systematic attempt had been made to destroy his public usefulness. He had been charged with inconsistency—he had been charged with any and every thing; but he believed, if the truth could be elicited, the great body of the American people appreciated his motives and approved his conduct. But to pass to the subject under consideration, said Mr. C. We are called upon to vote for this resolution on the broad principle of retrenchment. Good God! deliver us from such retrenchment! When I discover so great a cry and so little wool, I am compelled to pronounce it little business. Mr. C. said he was for retrenchment on retrenchment questions, until the plainly saw that it was done; and now he was determined to pursue the phantom no longer. He was aware that he should be sacrificed for this course, but he was willing to be offered up as a sacrifice on the altar of proscription for his country's happiness; nay, he would be proud of the which he believed would be satisfactory. The subject would resolve itself into two questions; but, first, he would remark, that if he could be convinced that the work could be done as well by other individuals, at a saving, he would not object to the removal of the present incumbent. But it had been suggested to employ boys—mere boys, from West Point, were to be employed in this business. Sir, said Mr. C. will it be contended that boys can draw out accurate and workmanlike maps—a map, for instance, of Kentucky, or of any other place, by the aid of a compass and a few lines? The idea was preposterous. It was true, he said, that boys could be hired at a cheaper rate than men. He could employ boys at the rate of twelve and a half cents per day in Kentucky, while he would have to give fifty cents for a man, and get a man's work per cent. But, in relation to the two questions he proposed to examine, they were, first, is the office necessary? and, second, is the salary too high? He would ask a third question: Does the office legally exist, or was it legally created? On the subject of the first question, he had it on the authority of an eminent man made by the clerk of the House, that if the labor which he would have called upon to abolish had already been done, and still we are called upon to abolish it, is this retrenchment? said Mr. C. If it is, it is retrenchment with a vengeance. Shall we say that the man who doubles our expenses retrenches them? It won't do. Can your committee discharge their duties without the aid of that committee on the post office, or of the United States, commerce, require. They often need maps of particular portions of country, on a much larger scale than can be given to the House, which comprise whole States, in order to ascertain the relative distances of post offices, the obstructions of rivers, bays, &c. &c. I need not say what I mean essential to them; and all who do their duty will appreciate its importance. Look, sir, at the map which now hangs behind your chair, on which is laid down all the post routes, canals, &c. of the country, and that, I venture to say, more accurately than any other map in existence. At all events, section of country from which he came; and this was by the hand of the draftsman being enabled to consult members on the localities of their several sections, and thus acquire information which could not be obtained by others. So much for the first question.

On the subject of the salary, Mr. C. said he had already remarked on the authority of the clerk; and he would state that the amount of services already performed by the draftsman, at the customary price, would amount to upwards of \$9,000, giving a clear saving to the country, over the amount received, of more than \$900 dollars. This, it was true, was a small saving, but it should be sufficient to settle the question on the score of economy.

Mr. C. said he had been surprised to see letters brought into that House by members, from public sources, evidently procured and designed to influence the House in the destruction of this little office.

Mr. C. continued. This subject strongly reminded him of the fable of Esop—that of the fox and the grapes. The fox said, "for God's sake don't drive away the full grapes, for a mere humbug." He had been obnoxious to every drop of blood from his place, because he would not vote to abolish this office, which he believed to be really necessary. This was not the ideal of retrenchment. You might as well, said Mr. C., ask me to reduce my pay to one dollar per day, and call it retrenchment. It would be as absurd.

He would now advert to the third question proposed by him: Had the SPEAKER the right to continue the office? He believed the SPEAKER had done his duty, and no more. Indeed he would have been deficient in the performance of his duty had he not continued the office, according to the terms of the resolution.

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lution; and while gentlemen were lavish of their charges of inconsistency against him, he would remind them of their own inconsistency. The clerk of your House, said Mr. C., is appointed by resolution, as is every other officer. Mr. C. contended that it was not necessary for the House to adopt a new resolution to continue the office. The old one was binding and in full force, until rescinded. He asked what it signified if the resolution had not been adopted? In his view, this very fact went to show that the House was not dissatisfied with the course pursued.

(Here Mr. C. was reminded that the hour had expired, and the subject was again laid over.)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17.

Mr. CHILTON, whose remarks were not concluded at the expiration of the hour on the 16th instant, on the succeeding morning resumed the floor, and again addressed the House. His resolution reported by Mr. DE WITT being still under consideration.

Mr. C. said that, to recapitulate what had been submitted before, was by no means his object; nor was it his object to consume unnecessarily the time of the House, which is always precious when it is well spent. But sir, said he, in these golden times of Retrenchment, I am well satisfied that the time will, of necessity, be consumed in some way, and I am almost inclined to think that it is spent more profitably to the people, when we dispute about doing "just nothing at all," than when we do them, by misdirected legislation, "just a great deal of nothing." I hope that no gentleman, either in or out of this House, presumes, that the American people are so miserably ignorant as to join the "hue and cry," and upon a trail where there is no trail—for this would be truly so "eagle-eyed" as to see what is not to be seen—and will usually exultate as with gold, though not classic, in "barking up the wrong tree."—This figure, though not classic, I am well satisfied, and as well understood in the western world. Sir, my principle motive is, to advert to what I consider a dangerous system of legislation—a system calculated to keep the country involved into incessant and interminable storm of confusion, without leading to any valuable result, enabling men to ride or even walk if they please into office, by arousing sympathies, which themselves may scarcely feel; arousing expectations which I sorrowfully see, are not to be realized; and by making large speeches, for home consumption, about little, very little matters indeed. I trust, that am, that they flow from no feeling of malice, for my bosom, I hope, is not sufficiently capacious to furnish an abode for so huge a monster. They do not flow from envy, for, like my colleague, my retiring modesty would blush to suppose the existence of so great a difference between men, as to justify a studied display of enmity, except in virtue, consistency, and purity, in all matters, whether public or private. These I desire, but if I were compelled to acquire them by stealth, I would, I should be at a loss to know upon whom to attempt the first robbery. I will not, I cannot condescend, to impugn the motives of other gentlemen, for, sir, it would not only be a dishonour, but would be a breach of the rules of this House, even to insinuate, that a member purposely omitted the arraignment of a large abuse, and fixed his affections on some sweet little inoffensive bawling like this. I have, nevertheless, looked on. I have seen the circling seasons chase each other, and have heard the lamentable tales of the existence of general corruption, but yet I have not seen, any very great change in the expenditures of this House, which is, certainly, sir, the very place where we the "great" work ought to begin. Though we were noisy about penknives, stationery, pens, waxes, tapes, folders, stickers, messengers, librarians, and all this, I apprehend it is likely to end in a mere farce. And though I have played a part in law of its first scenes, "I am," as said the fly when he escaped from the snare, "tired out," unless gentlemen will go to work upon infinitely a broader principle, and a more extended scale. This, like any other reform, is not wholly classical, but admirably suited to the subject. I hold in my hand the catalogue of services rendered by your draftsman, referred to by me yesterday, which it is due to the House and to him, I should read.

[Here Mr. C. read a long list of maps made by the draftsman for the use of the House and its committees.] I discuss, sir, this part of the subject, and will answer, or endeavor to answer a question which you so often asked, and asked, no doubt, under the influence of "conscious self-sufficiency," by my colleague, (Mr. WICKLIFFE.)

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

[From the Frankfort (Ky.) Commentator.]

The concluding paragraph of a circular letter from Mr. ROBT. WICKLIFFE, Senator from KENTUCKY, to his constituents, at the close of the last session of the General Assembly.

Your executive department was never committed to a more able or a more patriotic governor, than the individual who now administers it, with so much credit to himself and advantage to the State. Governor Metcalfe has, in the short time he has been in office, raised the department to its former dignity, and by his vigilance, prudence, and foresight, in all the various duties he performs, so conducted himself, as to restore that harmony among the departments of the government, of which the state has been deprived by a contrary administration of the executive department; so that in taking a retrospect of our actual condition as a state at this time, we have much to congratulate ourselves upon, and to be thankful to an overruling Providence for.

While such is the prospect, so far as state government is administered, it would be a subject of great pride, if I could but bear the like testimony to my constituents and neighbors, as to the actual administration of the national government. But it is our misfortune, fellow citizens, to have the evidence of the maladministration of President Jackson, in the ruin of our agricultural produce. While a violent and perverted spirit of revenge, marks his every act of toward the favorers of the late President's re-election, and towards them and theirs, the law of proscription is boldly proclaimed, the most shameful favoritism is tolerated to the least deserving of his followers; and while his profusion and profligacy in public expenditures, exceed all former example, there is the utmost imbecility or neglect in executing the laws against smuggling and other evasions of the Tariff.

The effect of these mal-administrations, is that President Jackson has squandered, in the first year of his administration, about the sum of five hundred and twenty-seven thousand four hundred and eighty-four dollars more than was expended by Mr. Adams during the last year of his administration; and the British smugglers having been permitted to introduce goods duty free, to large amounts, have excluded the American manufacturer, from our own markets, does not bear more than half the average price, that it did during the whole of the administration of Mr. Adams. With these facts before his eyes, the President comes out, in his message, denouncing the national purposes, and recommending a revision of the Tariff; thus, fellow citizens, while his administration is blasting the prospects of our mechanics and our manufacturers, are we sold by the President that we are to be taxed; and we are taxed from a million, to a million and a half dollars annually to support the profligate and expensive measures of an administration, without the return of a dollar, for any national work to be done, or performed within our State. And this, too, when a failure, on the part of the administration, to execute the Tariff against the smugglers of hemp and hemp bagging, has reduced the price of the hemp on our hands, to three dollars a hundred. These are evils we feel and are doomed to suffer. The judgment of power, in the hands where it is, was not your fault, nor is the remedy with you, or in your power. We must submit, therefore to our sufferings until the evils that afflict us reach a majority of the nation, and then are aroused from the lethargy, that at present prevails, as to the fate of every class of labour throughout the Union. Our state government however, is our own. Let us therefore, take care of that, and through that as far as possible, save our country from the universal wither with which the mal-administration of President Jackson has blighted the prospects of agriculture, mechanics and manufactures.

Your fellow-citizen,

R. WICKLIFFE

* Extract from President Jackson's message. "The receipts of the current year are estimated at twenty-four millions five hundred and two thousand four hundred and thirty-five dollars. Expenditures for the same time twenty-six millions one hundred and sixty-four thousand five hundred and twenty-five dollars." Jackson's expenditures more than his receipts into the treasury 1,563,355.

Extract from Adams' message, December 2d, 1823.—"The expenditures of the year may probably amount to twenty-five millions six hundred and thirty-seven thousand one hundred and eleven dollars."

AN APPRENTICE is wanted at the Whip Office DRAWING of the Delaware and South Carolina Lottery, Class No. 5:

17, 34, 27, 40, 36, 2, 16, 50, 33.

Drawing of the Dismal Swamp Lottery, No. 1.

25, 3, 12, 21, 30, 50, 13, 36, 17, 20.

From the N. Y. American, March 12.

FOREIGN NEWS.

By the ship HAMILTON, from Liverpool, papers have been received up to the 4th ult. They furnish, however, little of interest.

Parliament was to meet on the 4th. It was understood, says the Liverpool Courier of the 3d, that the address, in answer to the King's speech in the House of Lords, is to be moved by the Duke of Buccleuch, and seconded by Lord Glengall. An abundance of petitions are likely to be laid before Parliament, on the subject of the distresses of the country.

The King, says the London Observer, continues in the best health, takes a long daily promenade in the Corridors, looks well, and is well.

MINISTERIAL CHANGES.—Mr. Herries, it appears, is to be made President of the Board of Trade, in the place of Mr. Fitzgerald, who retires from ill health; and Lord Chandos is to succeed Mr. Herries as Master of the Mint. It is stated that Mr. George Banks had resigned, or was about to resign the Secretaryship of the Board of Control, and that he was to be succeeded by Mr. Wortley, the son of Lord Wharcliffe. Lord Mountcharles, one of the Lords of the Treasury, had either resigned or been removed from office, and no person as yet had been appointed to succeed him. It was reported in the Government circles, that Lord Palmerston and Mr. Huskisson have agreed to support Ministers, and that Lord Ellenborough will go out to make room for Lord Palmerston.

M. A. Shee, Esq. has been elected President of the Royal Academy. This selection was in opposition to the wishes of the King, and Sir Walter Scott—two great authorities—who desired that Wilkie should have been the successor of Sir Thomas Lawrence. The nomination of Wilkie as painter to the King, was looked upon by the academicians, it is said, as a sort of intimation of the choice they were expected to make: whereupon—as painters, even more than poets, are of the jealous and irritable race—they forthwith elected Mr. Shee, who is both painter and poet. The votes were, Shee 13, Beechey 6, Wilkie 2, and two scattering. There were 30 members present.

It is confidently asserted that Ministers fully intend to re-nov the East India Company's Charter.

A meeting had been held at Birmingham, professing to form a Union Society, from 12,000 to 15,000 persons present, and hundreds were compelled to retire disappointed. The proceedings lasted from ten in the morning until dusk.

It is calculated that two hundred suicides have been committed in London, and within the bills of mortality during the last twelve months, all resulting from habitual intoxication.

The Cotton Market had receded.

The Globe states that Mr. Wortley is to succeed Mr. George Banks in the Board of Control. The Court Journal says it is reported that Lord Palmerston and Mr. Huskisson have agreed to support ministers; and that Lord Ellenborough will go out, to make room for Lord Palmerston. Lord Wellington is said not to have been very cordial with Lord E. for some time past.

The papers mention the death of Mr. Tierney. According to the letters from Madrid, the Spanish government has been endeavoring to raise a loan, through the medium of some of the French capitalists, with a view to fit out another expedition against South America. As the parties, however, made the recognition of the bonds of the cortes a sine qua non, the matter had fallen to the ground.

Death of the Queen of Portugal.—The Old Queen of Portugal died on the 7th of January.

The King of France has created seven new peers, among whom is La Bourdonnaye. He has also made a "Consultative committee" of five in the department of war.

The French army is to receive an augmentation of 60,000 men; which, it is stated, will probably give rise to warlike reports, although it may be only intended to keep the army on the same footing as last year.

The weather continued to be very cold in England. On the 1st of February, the principal streets in London were almost impassable for carriages, and dangerous to foot passengers from the snow and ice. The Liverpool Albion of Feb. 1st says, "the frost is now as intense as it was at any period during the winter, and all the canals are again closed. Coal is beginning to be scarce, from the stoppage of the canal navigation."

The Winchester, 52 gun ship, with the flag of Vice Admiral Colpoys, was about to sail for Teneriffe and Barbadoes, where she is expected to meet with Admiral Fleming, "who will then return to England." The command of which vice Admiral Colpoys has been appointed "comprehends Jamaica and Halifax, hitherto separate stations. The Winchester was to take out two Consuls. As Admiral Fleming has appeared to intermeddle a good deal in the affairs of Colombia of late, his return may not, in the end, prove injurious to the interests of that country.

GREECE.—Prince Leopold is spoken of for the throne of Greece with more confidence than ever; but it is said he is to bear only the title of sovereign Prince.

LONDON, Feb. 1.—It is stated by the adherents of the present Ministers that the Duke of Wellington is resolved to meet Parliament, and resist to the utmost, every proposal, either of a reduction of taxation or a change in the pauperising and revolutionary system.

The Journal du Commerce announces a signal defeat just sustained by the French Ministry, and which is the more galling as every effort has been made to produce a different result. M. Guizot, the Constitutional Candidate, has been just returned by the Electoral College of Lisieux, by an immense majority, though the President of the Electoral College, who is always nominated by the Government, departed so far from the impartiality which ought to distinguish his conduct, as to exhort the electors in the most impassioned terms, to exclude the successful candidate.

The affairs of Greece attract much attention; be not deceived, however—that is supposing you care about the matter—the imminent preparation at Toulon is destined for Algiers, and not for Greece.

Liverpool Corn Exchange, Feb. 2.

Wheat had advanced 2d. The market was well supplied, and in other articles no alteration.

Liverpool Cotton Market, Feb. 3.

The business doing in cotton, this week, is at a reduction of 1d, and in some instances 4d, per lb. from last week's prices. The sales to day are estimated at about 1500 bales, viz: 100 Orleans, 7d a 7 1/2; 1100 Uplands, 6 1/2 a 7d, and 7d for prime. It may be remarked that a great portion of the Uplands were new cottons, of which there is at present a good supply on the market, and on which the decline noticed above is most perceptible.

At Deal 28th Jan, Meliora, Campbell, Virginia; Orbit, Fish, from Virginia.

Liverpool, Feb. 4.—Arr'd, James Cropper, Gary, Virginia.

Schr. EFFORT, for New York.

Passengers per schr. Effort, will please be on board, at Rockets, to-morrow Morning, the 17th instant, at 8 o'clock.

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TRUST SALE.

In compliance with the provisions of a Deed of bearing date the 19th day of May, 18